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By the Office

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All is quiet in the office to-day. Strange to say, the telephone does not ring, no girls come in to ask for ink, there are no interruptions at all. What a grand chance to write the News Letter! Almost every one else has gone to the Remembrance Day service at the University. (Yes, it is only November 11th when this begins.) From ten until one, the University and the School as part of it, are closed to give staff and students a chance to attend this service. This year too, the girls of the W.S.T.D. (Women's Service Training Detachment) will be there. A number of our students are taking this training twice a week and seem to like it. They look quite natty in their neat gray uniforms with blue ties. Our students are also trying to do some Red Cross work, chiefly in the form of knitting, and it is not an uncommon thing to see a girl going through the hall with a seaman's huge stocking, the long, heavy kind that looks as if it would be very cruel to tender feet, tucked under her arm and knitting needles as big as pencils sticking out here and there. No, they do not knit in class!

Right here seems to be the proper time to tell you of the war work the Alumnae are doing. Regularly every Friday, the Faithful Few come down to the School to sew. You should see the smart outfits they are making for little four-year old boys, to be sent by the Red Cross to England - gray jackets and trousers, little blue striped blouses, red sweaters and gray socks with a red stripe in the top. Some of the graduates who cannot come to sew because they are at work, bring their lunch and at least help in the planning or take work home. Others dash in for wool or to bring back knitted articles, and dash out again. Wouldn't you like to have O.F.F. after your name? And the Ditty Bags! Helen Parsons '22 has been in charge of them, and if you live in or near Toronto and had a ditty bag, you probably heard from her more than once, unless you were forehanded and got yours in by October 15th, as you were supposed to do. 138 bags have already been filled and taken to the Navy League Headquarters. Two are still out as we go to press! Judging by the bulging bags we saw in the office, a good many sailor lads will be made happy at Christmas time. We hope you will each get a letter of thanks from your particular boy, just for the fun of it, but in any case you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you brought Christmas cheer to many and at the same time helped your Alumnae put across a pretty big undertaking. A letter has come from Lady Womersley, Chairman of the Women's Branch of the Grimsby and Cleethorpes Unionist Association, thanking the Alumnae for all the articles they sent last year for the Grimsby men in the Navy. Lady Womersley says, "I hasten to express the very sincere thanks both of myself and my committee for your magnificent contribution. The garments are simply splendid and the Razor Blades and Soap most acceptable. The 'Boys' are particularly appreciative and very grateful for your kindness."

You will be interested also in the letter that came in October from Miss Phyllis Spafford, secretary of The Ling Association. It speaks for itself. "We are, as you know, keeping the money you sent us to help gymnasts who have suffered through the War, until we find the most deserving case or cases. Last week we made a loan of £9 of it to a member who has lost her physical education practice owing to the War and cannot meet her house rates. As these must be met immediately our Committee felt you would wish us to help her from your Fund. She hopes to be in a position to return the money in due course so that the full Fund will be available for its original purpose. In the meantime this member has asked us to send you her most grateful thanks - I will write to you again later on." Doesn't it give you a nice feeling to know that your money

raised by your own Refresher Course Committee, is doing something to make things a little easier for one of your compatriots in England? By the way, fifty cents of every dollar paid in to the Alumnae for fees this year, will go to the war work. If you have not already done so, send in your fees to Mrs. A.T. Levin (Rose Levy) 89 Constance Street, or to the School office and we will see that she gets the money.

The first meeting of the Alumnae this fall was held at the Residence, 99 St. George Street, on Tuesday, October 28th, President Shirley Naylor '37 in the chair. Elections resulted in the return to office of the following: President, Shirley Naylor; Secretary-Treasurer, Rose Levy Levin '38; Conveners of War Work Committee, Lois Howard Armstrong '22 and Lois Russell Heaton '28; Secretary-Treasurer of War Work Committee, Adrienne Adams Lea '39; Convener of Refresher Course Committee, Dorothy Jackson '27; of Christmas Baskets, Edith Amsden '18; of Graduates Day, Anne Ross Thompson '34; and of the Graduates Reception, Dona Smellie '23. About twenty graduates were present and every one seemed to be interested and enthusiastic. Already Dorothy Jackson and her committee are planning for the Refresher Course, which is to be held on December 29, 30 and 31. There is to be an all-Canadian staff. Elizabeth Wardley Raymer will teach Children's Rhythms, Evelyn Van Valkenburg Social Dancing, Helen Hurd '36 the Modern Dance, Molly Maw Purchase '35 Apparatus and Madeleine Roach, Director of Physical Education for girls at Riverdale Collegiate Institute, Toronto, will teach Gymnastics. At the luncheon to be held on Wednesday, Margaret Eaton, junior commander in the Canadian Women's Army Corps for Military District No. 2 (Toronto) will speak on the work of the Corps. We think the Refresher Course needs you. You certainly need the Refresher Course if you are teaching.

To return to the School, if you would drop in to see us almost any morning, the place would seem about as usual because the building is a busy one; but come in at noon, that is from one to two, and you would feel quite lost. The office is closed then, the staff and students are almost always out for lunch. We do not want you to judge what is going on by the noon hour, however, for staff and students really are busy. Miss Somers is doing a lot of teaching both at the School and at the University - Community Hygiene, Methods, Principles of Education, Social Recreation and Archery, all in our building, and History and Principles, Social Recreation and Archery at the University. Shirley Naylor spends most of her time teaching at the University in the Lillian Massey Gymnasium. She has Tap Dancing here and Games, and she and Miss Somers between them supervise the Seniors' practice teaching in the public schools. Dorothy Jackson is kept busy teaching, mostly at M.E.S., our girls, second year physical education students, diploma students 3rd and 4th years, university women compulsory classes and Occupational and Physio therapy students. For that matter Miss Somers, Miss Jackson and Miss Naylor all teach both M.E.S. and university girls. It must be a little hectic for them in spots, when they have to dash up to the University for a class or two, then back to The Margaret Eaton School for another.

You should have been around for the Office Moving Day. Not that we have moved entirely. If you could drop in to see us, you would not think that there was any less in the office than there has been for many a year. But all the financial records have been transferred to the T. Eaton Co. store, and that means all such records from 1906 to the present day. Picture boxes and bundles of receipted bills, cheques, cheque and receipt stubs, huge book-keeping books, all piled up on the table, the typewriter desk, the cupboard. Picture the dust of ages collected on some of the bundles even though they were most carefully put away in the cupboard downstairs. Picture our relief when it was all carted away! Little did you realize in the days when you rushed in and out of the Locker Room that the old cupboard in the corner held such important documents! To our mind, still more important documents lie at rest in that old cupboard--pictures of bygone classes wonderful to behold, copies of the school calendar right back to 1906, many cuts and dies, some old Alumnae Minute books, even a parcel of old examinations. What stories they could tell of activity and fun and hard work--gym. classes, league games, demonstrations (arenas we used to call them)! What

pictures they bring to mind of Discussion Groups and Studio Recitals and Drama in the building on North Street!

Thinking of old days has given us an idea. If you will all help, we will have one News Letter that is devoted almost entirely to news of the School before 1926. You who belonged to that time, have you any special memories that would be of interest? Send in all the news you can of graduates of the School of Literature and Expression, before the end of February 1942. Let's make this letter a little different.

New books on Health and Physical Education continue to be published this fall as they are any other fall of any other year. People who have something to say on education will be saying it on paper whether wars rage or other pestilence descends upon us.

A book which just came to my attention is "Fun, Frolic, Fellowship" compiled by R.C.Sidenius of Hamilton and published by The Thorn Press, Toronto, \$1.25. It is a good collection of games of all kinds for social purposes. Mary Breen, author of "Partners in Play", has written a new book entitled, "The Children's Party Book", published by A. S. Barnes & Co. Macmillan has just brought out a book entitled "The Role of the Teacher in Health Education", which seems to me so good that I hope to use it as a text in my course in Health Education. "Work Book for Physical Education", by Mae Iddins (C.V.Mosby Co.) and "Physical Education for Small Elementary Schools", by Harold K. Jacks (A.S.Barnes & Co.) are well reviewed in the last C.P.E.A.Bulletin.

Other useful new books published by A. S. Barnes & Co. (purchased at The Geo. M. Hendry Co., 270 King Street West, Toronto) are:

Hunt and Cain - Games the World Around - \$2.50
Hostetler, Lawrence - Walk your Way to better Dancing - 2.00
Sauthoff, Hermine - Tap Dances for Fun - 2.50
Lees, Josephine - Field Hockey for Girls - 1.00
Huprich, Florence L. - Soccer and Speedball for Girls - 1.00
Smith, Anne Marie - Play for Convalescent Children - 1.60
Sutton, Rhoda R. - Creative Rhythms - 1.60
Parkhill and Spaeth - It's Fun to make Things - 2.00

-Florence A. Somers

The Referees' Club under the direction of Dorothy Jackson, who is chairman of the Committee on Women's Athletics of the C.P.E.A., has started well. On Saturday, November 22nd, a group of students from the University and M.E.S. gave a demonstration of basketball rules and the technique of officiating. The Hamilton teachers, who were among the goodly number attending, have asked them to give the same demonstration next Saturday in Hamilton, when they will play McMaster University.

Miss Somers had some leaflets sent to her by the Ling Association of England, about their work. Most interesting they were. We quote from an appeal to join the Association: "You may be doing excellent individual work, but the profession needs your active support. You are urged to show your belief in the profession to which you belong by joining the Association as soon as possible." Take that to heart and join your own Canadian Physical Education Association, you who are physical education teachers. Send \$1.00 to Miss Jean Forster, Treasurer, 555 Huron St., Toronto.

NEWS NOTES:

Friends all over the country will regret to hear that Miss Hamilton's nephew, George Birchall, is missing in air operations overseas. George joined the R.A.F. before the war and Miss Hamilton can be proud of his achievements, at only twenty-two years of age, as a member of a bomber patrol squadron. We are all watching the papers eagerly in the hope of seeing that he is a prisoner of war in one of the occupied countries.

Mary Barker '25 has been appointed to the staff of the Canadian Women's Army Corps with the rank of junior commander for Military District No. 1 (London). She has been given leave of absence from the University of Western Ontario for the duration of the war. Mildred McQueen '23, who was "laid off" at MacDonald Institute because the buildings there were taken over by the R.C.A.F., is substituting for Mary at Western.

Peggy Anderson '38, Diana Cameron '40, Joan MacMillan '40 and Kathleen Staples '40, and Rosamond Crocker, a former student at M.E.S., have joined the Canadian Women's Auxiliary Air Force and have almost finished their training at the new headquarters at 354 Jarvis Street, the old Havergal College building.

Margaret Currie '28 is with the Canadian Women's Army Corps working in the cable office at headquarters in Ottawa. She was called to Toronto due to the death of her sister, Miss Florence Currie, on November 1st. Margaret lived with her sister when she was at M.E.S. We all give her our sincere sympathy in her loss.

Mary Adams '34 has gone to Brandon, Manitoba, to be Physical Director in the Y.W.C.A. and to take charge of the junior boys' work at the Y.M.C.A.

Joyce Bertram '41 is taking Mary's place at the Ontario Training School, Galt.

Kathleen Bird '37 (Mrs. James McWilliam) dropped in to see us early in November. She was on her way east with her husband, who is a pilot in the R.C.A.F. Kay plans to stay with him until he goes overseas.

Betty Brigham '32 (Mrs. Robin B. Davis) and her husband are living in Toronto now, at 2449 Queen Street East.

Frances Caisley '28, who has been teaching physical education, hygiene and science in the elementary schools of Baltimore, has been promoted to Junior High School where she teaches only physical education. She writes of her summer at Camp Kearsarge: "Our campers did a great deal of British war work - made 3 knitted afghans, contributed \$120.00 toward the keep of two English orphans, made and filled 14 mine-sweepers' kits. (We got the idea for this from Lois Russell Heaton). So you see we really worked."

Born, to Lieutenant and Mrs. Wm. Fess (Molly Dallas '38) on October 30th, twin sons, Bill and Peter.

Born to Major C.D. Raikes and Mrs. Raikes (Norah Fletcher '32) on Wednesday, November 19th, at Truro, N.S., a daughter.

Captain and Mrs. Clifford Armitage (Marjorie Fraser '39) announce the birth of their son, Robert Gordon, on October 29th at Sydney, N.S.

Dorte Glahn '33, who gave up her position in the Vancouver Y.W.C.A. to be with her mother in Toronto, has started classes of her own in the York Township public schools. Through the kindness of the Township School Board, Dorte has classes in four schools. She also has a married ladies' class in a church near her home and altogether manages to keep quite busy.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Laura Graham of the class of '41 in the death of her mother on Tuesday, November 18th. Laura's classmates spent many a happy hour in her hospitable home, and will hear with regret of Mrs. Graham's death.

A nice, long letter came recently from Shigeko Hasegawa '39. She hopes to begin work in January and is greatly thrilled at the prospect. One of the staff of the Physical Education College in Tokio, is taking up the study of medicine and Shige is to relieve her. While this teacher does not leave until April, Shige is to help her before she goes, probably doing some statistical or secretarial work for a few months before undertaking active classes. Shige must be much better. She says, "I now know much better how to take care of myself after two years in 'horizontal life', I hope."

Monday, November 10th was quite a day in the office. On that day we had calls from Diana Hawkins, Barbara Jones and Louise Mackenzié, all of '41, and Dorothy Laidlaw '39 (feeling very happy, but it is not announced yet!). Diana, Barbara and Dorothy were all in the city for the long week-end. Louise had just returned from a wonderful trip to the Pacific coast, with many stops along the way, particularly in Lethbridge.

On the same day, Kay Mackenzie Beers '35, came in and brought us up-to-date on news of her family. Her second child, Frederick William Kenneth, was born on September 2nd and both children, Heather and Bill, are thriving in the crisp Muskoka air of Foote's Bay. Corporal Beers is stationed at Summerside, P.E.I., but until he can get suitable accommodation for them, Kay and the children are staying with her people.

Born to Dr. and Mrs. George G. Lee (Jean Mark '29) of 757 Nathan Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong, China, a son, Clifford. A letter from Fan Lee '29 gave us this news, but she did not say when young Clifford arrived. We are glad to report that mother and son are both well. Fan writes: "Jean is really getting into the swing of being parent, more so when the floor has to be paced at night - I see Jean quite regularly. We play badminton once a week and Jean has also resumed playing softball. The season for that usually starts around September and I'm looking forward to entering a team again. Do you like cactus plants? I've gotten in the practice of collecting them, not too successful because I haven't yet the knack of taking care of them - either too much watering or otherwise, but just lately I've changed my complete collection - they died - and have the sweetest replacement of 10 two-inch pots like the red ones at home in miniature."

Kathleen Pepler '22 (Mrs. H. John Hall) with Captain Hall and little Christopher, arrived in Canada recently and after spending a few days in Quebec with Kathleen's brother, will be in Toronto with Mrs. Pepler. Kathleen's friends will be very glad to see her again after her sojourn in the far country of Zanzibar.

Bretta Powles '35 is completing her work for her degree in the University of Manitoba.

Elise Smyth '41 is working in the cable office at her home, Sydney, N.S.

We were sorry to see by the daily paper that Betty Snell's brother is missing in air operations overseas. There is still hope that he may be a prisoner of war.

After taking a training course at the Danforth Technical School, Ethel Stevens '30, is now doing munition work - long hours but real satisfaction.

Peggy Taylor '20 (Mrs. Eric B. Johnston) is one of the graduates who has a war guest, a boy the age of her own son. The Johnstons are building a home on a farm out at King and are getting lots of pleasure out of it.

We sympathize deeply with Elinor Walker '39 and her family in the death of her mother, Mrs. E.M. Walker, on October 2nd.

It was with very real sorrow that we learned recently of the sudden death of Rettie Tingley '32 (Mrs. Wallace Meyers). Rettie was a girl of sterling character, unspoiled by her unusual ability in sports, and she will be greatly missed.

IN APPRECIATION

We of the Alumnae who intimately knew Rettie Tingley Meyers, were distressed to learn of her death last spring. Rettie came to M.E.S. already famous in the field of athletics. While a student at the University of British Columbia, she was a member of the Canadian Basketball team which played at Prague.

At the School she distinguished herself by obtaining a very high standing in practical work in both her junior and senior years. Her pride of achievement was manifested by active participation in riding, lacrosse, hockey and all out-of-door sports. She was endeared to all by her extreme courtesy, her good sportsmanship, and those qualities that fashion an exquisite appearance and a refined and charming personality.

To her husband, daughter and family, we extend sincerest sympathy.

-Barbara Claxton Fisher '32

Friends of Andreana Williams Gunyon '22 will be glad to know that Mr. Gunyon is coming home soon from South America where he has been located for over two years.

As we go to press, general secretaries of the Y.W.C.A. from all over Canada are in Toronto attending a special "Y" conference at the National Council, Y.W.C.A. Among them are Gladys Hanmer '33 who does part-general and part-physical education in the Sudbury Y.W.-Y.M.C.A., and Gerry Dickson '41 who does the same in Fredericton, N.B.

STOP! Have you read about the Alumnae Refresher Course on page 2? Have you read about the War Work on page 1? As a matter of fact, have you read anything besides the News Notes? Tut! Tut! What do we write the News-of-the-School for?

Another Christmas is here and once again we send our warmest greetings to each one of you. We think you might like the following quotation from Anne Sutherland Brooks:

"Once upon a time -- when we were very small, they lifted us up so that we could see it better, the Star at the top of the tree. It was the peak of beauty and wonder to our baby minds. It crowned the world.

And then we grew taller over the years, taller through pain and through joy and wisdom and sorrow, inch by inch, till now we are quite grown-up. And still we cannot see it as we would like to, the Star of the Prince of Peace.

Never fear. It is there. It has been there for nearly 2000 years and will be forever and ever. It will never be taken down. It crowns the world."

In spite of war and its horrors, may you see shining brighter and brighter the Star of the Prince of Peace. That is our Christmas wish for you.

Charlotte H. Layton



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